



# City of Seattle

Seattle Police Department

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December 14, 2012

Drone Watch  
MuckRock News  
Dept MR 1545  
PO Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819  
[1545-22557225@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:1545-22557225@requests.muckrock.com)

RE: Records Request under Chapter 42.56 RCW: Unmanned Aircraft Systems- Additional Information Requested

Dear Drone Watch,

Enclosed please find the responsive records to your request for information concerning unmanned aircraft systems used by the Seattle Police Department.

Also included is our Public Disclosure Redaction Log, detailing what documents were withheld or redacted.

If you believe the information furnished has been incorrectly withheld or redacted, you may file a written appeal with the Chief of Police within ten (10) business days from the date of receipt of this letter. The appeal must include your name and address, a copy of the redacted document and a copy of this letter together with a brief statement identifying the basis of the appeal. Please mail or deliver your appeal to:

Chief of Police  
610 Fifth Avenue  
PO Box 34986  
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Sincerely,

John Diaz  
Chief of Police

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alyne R. Hansen'.

Alyne R. Hansen  
Supervisor  
Public Request Unit

JD:arh

Enclosures



## Public Disclosure Redaction Log

### Unmanned Aircraft PDR #2012- 3549

#### Records Redacted

Document Description	Exemption	Explanation
Draft Operation Manual 14 pages withheld	RCW 42.56.280	Record contains preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations and intra-agency memorandums in which opinions are expressed or policies formulated or recommended.

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Chief of Police  
610 Fifth Avenue  
P.O. Box 34986  
Seattle, WA. 98124

Response to Public Disclosure Request prepared by:

Alyne R. Hansen  
Supervisor  
Public Request Unit

Phone: (206) 684-5481

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

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**From:** Ellis, David J. [DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 03, 2011 9:06 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Knight, Daniel P.; Armstrong, Brandon  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout

Hi Reuben,

Thanks for the invite last month, we really appreciated it.

We would be happy to have you come over and check out the Scout. I think it will probably be a few months still before our training is complete, but will contact you as we get closer to being operational.

Also, as part of the NIJ TWG board, I have just recently reviewed the proposed FAA UAS standards. I am not able to release them yet, but I can tell you it looks promising and much more user/LE friendly. I don't think it is perfect, but it is dramatically better than what we operate under now.

Hope things are going well,

Dave

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 01, 2011 7:17 AM  
**To:** 'DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org'  
**Subject:** Datron Scout

David!

Thanks again for coming over last month for the demonstration. I hope you came away with good information.

I was talking with Datron and they mentioned that you guys are going to be getting your hands on a Scout for some period of time, or something like that. I saw the unit in person but did not see it fly. Do you think we (SPD) could coordinate a day to visit your location and see the darn thing fly?

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

---

**From:** Ellis, David J. [DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 08, 2011 6:24 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout

Hi Reuben,

I will certainly do that.

Hope things are going well,

Dave

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 06, 2011 9:09 AM  
**To:** Ellis, David J.  
**Cc:** Knight, Daniel P.; Armstrong, Brandon  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout

David... thanks for the update. We are kinda holding our breath here for FAA regs to be a little more reasonable. If you could keep me on a list to be updated I would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

---

**From:** Ellis, David J. [mailto:DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 03, 2011 9:06 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Knight, Daniel P.; Armstrong, Brandon  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout

Hi Reuben,

Thanks for the invite last month, we really appreciated it.

We would be happy to have you come over and check out the Scout. I think it will probably be a few months still before our training is complete, but will contact you as we get closer to being operational.

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**Sent:** Thursday, September 01, 2011 7:17 AM  
**To:** 'DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org'  
**Subject:** Datron Scout

David!

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(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

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**From:** Ellis, David J. [DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 6:38 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: FAA Update

Reuben,

As of right now, it looks like they are wanting for everyone to be checked for the visual acuity level of a class 2 medical. This is just a proposal, and it sounds like they are exploring an alternative process to accomplish this. I am hearing that we are hoping for rules to go into effect in by the end of first quarter 2012. This is not set in stone, so please do not distribute this.

FYI, we as a unit have decided to be the test case for these new rules, and will be waiting until February before applying under the new COA requirements.

Hope this helps,

Dave

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [<mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 8:48 AM  
**To:** Ellis, David J.  
**Subject:** FAA Update

Hi David,

I thought I would send you an email because you hinted that you were on a LE panel for FAA regulation changes. Do you have any significant updates to share? I hear that the FAA may remove the medical examination requirement for operators.

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

---

**From:** Ellis, David J. [DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 8:55 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: FAA Update

It sounds like the focus might be only on vision, so the final draft might end up looking like that. Hopefully they can pass that, and be able to continue to participate with your program.

Thanks,

Dave

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**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 7:41 PM  
**To:** Ellis, David J.  
**Subject:** RE: FAA Update

Well that is kinda like the rumor I heard, and I will most certainly keep it under wraps. The main reason why I ask is because a couple guys that we were banking on passing the physical didn't and were hoping that the loosening of the rules would allow them to participate. I will certainly stand by and hope for the change to occur sooner than later.

Thanks again for the "down low" info.

Thank you,  
Officer Omelanchuk  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

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**From:** Ellis, David J. [DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 6:37 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: FAA Update

Reuben,

As of right now, it looks like they are wanting for everyone to be checked for the visual acuity level of a class 2 medical. This is just a proposal, and it sounds like they are exploring an alternative process to accomplish this. I am hearing that we are hoping for rules to go into effect in by the end of first quarter 2012. This is not set in stone, so please do not distribute this.

FYI, we as a unit have decided to be the test case for these new rules, and will be waiting until February before applying under the new COA requirements.

Hope this helps,

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**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [<mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 8:48 AM

**To:** Ellis, David J.

**Subject:** FAA Update

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Thank you,

R. Omelanchuk #6802

(206) 733-9364

Seattle Police Department

Homeland Security



## Omelanchuk, Reuben

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Zeigler, George  
**Subject:** Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Hello,

Your department is being invited to attend a demonstration of a UAS and its particular capabilities for Law Enforcement use. If you are not able to attend I would appreciate this invitation being passed to any of your colleagues who may be interested and available. This is an informal demonstration and there will be time for questions to be answered before and after the demonstration.

**Who:** Datron World Communications - Scout Air Reconnaissance System

**What:** The Datron Scout Air Reconnaissance System is a small, rugged and lightweight unmanned Micro Air Vehicle designed to capture and transmit high quality video and images in the field. The Scout's mobility as a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) vehicle affords it the ability to silently hover and stare at any point of interest, without the need for a fixed launch or landing platform. A robust design coupled with snap together assembly makes the Scout a perfect fit for missions in a broad range of environments where measuring time in seconds will matter.

(<http://dtwc.com/products/aerial-recon/scout-air-reconnaissance-system>)

**Why:** There is a growing interest and need for UAS within the LE community. Datron Scout is already being used out in the field and recently has played a part in Libya. See their website for actual video. This will be an opportunity to see and ask questions regarding a possible UAS for LE purposes.

**Date/Time:** October 27th, 2011, 1330 hrs.

**Location:** Seattle Magnuson Park, boat launch area. Take the NE 65<sup>th</sup> St exit on I-5 and head East. Follow 65th to park entrance (at Sandpoint Way) and continue straight. At the stop we will either be set up just to the left or right. There is currently a lot of construction happening within the park but this is the plan for now. 47°40'34.01"N 122°15'5.25"W

**Highlights:** VTOL, hover & stare, intelligent camera targeting, stream real-time digital video to any device, quiet & covert, completely GPS, touch-screen controlled, hot-swappable payloads, missions beyond line of sight or at night, intelligent battery technology.

If you have any questions please feel free to reply in email or call me at 206-255-7593 (cell) or 206-733-9364 (desk)

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 8:04 AM  
**To:** hornbuckle.j@portseattle.org  
**Subject:** FW: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Hello Commander,

Jeff is out of the office & his automatic reply happens to have your name as a contact. In his absence you may be interested in attending this demonstration.

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** 'Zeigler, George'  
**Subject:** Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Hello,

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Thank you,

## **Omelanchuk, Reuben**

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**From:** Loye, Jon [Jon.Loye@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 12:54 PM  
**To:** Mendel, Rob; Linde, Peter J; Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I can make it and it is on my schedule.

**Jon Loye**  
**Sergeant**  
**King County Air Support Unit**

---

**From:** Mendel, Rob  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 11:32 AM  
**To:** Loye, Jon  
**Subject:** FW: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Can you attend?

---

**From:** Linde, Peter J  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 10:46 AM  
**To:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

My new days off are somewhat of an issue. My wife likes me to fill up my days with stuff, and I'm not home Sundays.  
Maybe Sgt Loye could go?

---

**From:** Mendel, Rob  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 8:17 AM  
**To:** Linde, Peter J  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Ok, just wanted to make sure your new days off where not the only issue. See you soon. Do you know someone else we could send?

---

**From:** Linde, Peter J  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 11:32 AM  
**To:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I would like to, but I have a function to attend at my daughters school.

---

**From:** Mendel, Rob  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 9:50 AM  
**To:** Linde, Peter J  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I cannot attend as well. Are you interested on OT or an adjustment that works for you?

**From:** Linde, Peter J  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I can't attend as that is a furlough day for me. Perhaps Capt. Mendel can.

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [<mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Zeigler, George  
**Subject:** Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

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Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelandchuk, Reuben

---

**From:** Linde, Peter J [Peter.Linde@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Omelandchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
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**Cc:** Zeigler, George  
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Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

---

**From:** Linde, Peter J [Peter.Linde@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 11:34 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Neither Capt. Mendel or myself can attend. Take good notes.

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Zeigler, George  
**Subject:** Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

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Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## **Omelanchuk, Reuben**

---

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 2:02 PM  
**To:** Linde, Peter J  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I think I got an out of office reply earlier today. I don't think he'll make it.

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

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**From:** Linde, Peter J [<mailto:Peter.Linde@kingcounty.gov>]  
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## Omelanchuk, Reuben

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**From:** Mendel, Rob [Rob.Mendel@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 2:27 PM  
**To:** Loye, Jon; Linde, Peter J; Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Thanks.

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**From:** Loye, Jon  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 12:54 PM  
**To:** Mendel, Rob; Linde, Peter J; [Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov](mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

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**Sergeant**  
**King County Air Support Unit**

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**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2011 11:32 AM  
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**To:** Linde, Peter J  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Ok, just wanted to make sure your new days off were not the only issue. See you soon. Do you know someone else we could send?

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**From:** Linde, Peter J  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 11:32 AM  
**To:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I would like to, but I have a function to attend at my daughters school.



**From:** Mendel, Rob  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 9:50 AM  
**To:** Linde, Peter J  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I cannot attend as well. Are you interested on OT or an adjustment that works for you?

**From:** Linde, Peter J  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I can't attend as that is a furlough day for me. Perhaps Capt. Mendel can.

**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [<mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Zeigler, George  
**Subject:** Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

Hello,

Your department is being invited to attend a demonstration of a UAS and its particular capabilities for Law Enforcement use. If you are not able to attend I would appreciate this invitation being passed to any of your colleagues who may be interested and available. This is an informal demonstration and there will be time for questions to be answered before and after the demonstration.

**Who:** Datron World Communications - Scout Air Reconnaissance System

**What:** The Datron Scout Air Reconnaissance System is a small, rugged and lightweight unmanned Micro Air Vehicle designed to capture and transmit high quality video and images in the field. The Scout's mobility as a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) vehicle affords it the ability to silently hover and stare at any point of interest, without the need for a fixed launch or landing platform. A robust design coupled with snap together assembly makes the Scout a perfect fit for missions in a broad range of environments where measuring time in seconds will matter.

(<http://dtwc.com/products/aerial-recon/scout-air-reconnaissance-system>)

**Why:** There is a growing interest and need for UAS within the LE community. Datron Scout is already being used out in the field and recently has played a part in Libya. See their website for actual video. This will be an opportunity to see and ask questions regarding a possible UAS for LE purposes.

**Date/Time:** October 27th, 2011, 1330 hrs.

**Location:** Seattle Magnuson Park, boat launch area. Take the NE 65<sup>th</sup> St exit on I-5 and head East. Follow 65th to park entrance (at Sandpoint Way) and continue straight. At the stop we will either be set up just to the left or right. There is currently a lot of construction happening within the park but this is the plan for now. 47°40'34.01"N 122°15'5.25"W

**Highlights:** VTOL, hover & stare, intelligent camera targeting, stream real-time digital video to any device, quiet & covert, completely GPS, touch-screen controlled, hot-swappable payloads, missions beyond line of sight or at night, intelligent battery technology.

If you have any questions please feel free to reply in email or call me at 206-255-7593 (cell) or 206-733-9364 (desk)

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

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**From:** Linde, Peter J [Peter.Linde@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 2:30 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

He is out but will be back on the 24th

-----Original message-----

**From:** "Omelanchuk, Reuben" <Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov>  
**To:** "Linde, Peter J" <Peter.Linde@kingcounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu, Oct 20, 2011 21:02:33 GMT+00:00  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

I think I got an out of office reply earlier today. I don't think he'll make it.

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security

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**From:** Linde, Peter J [mailto:Peter.Linde@kingcounty.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Mendel, Rob  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout UAS Demonstration

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**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Zeigler, George  
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Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department

## Omelanchuk, Reuben

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**From:** Ellis, David J. [DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 03, 2011 9:06 PM  
**To:** Omelanchuk, Reuben  
**Cc:** Knight, Daniel P.; Amstrong, Brandon  
**Subject:** RE: Datron Scout

Hi Reuben,

Thanks for the invite last month, we really appreciated it.

We would be happy to have you come over and check out the Scout. I think it will probably be a few months still before our training is complete, but will contact you as we get closer to being operational.

Also, as part of the NIJ TWG board, I have just recently reviewed the proposed FAA UAS standards. I am not able to release them yet, but I can tell you it looks promising and much more user/LE friendly. I don't think it is perfect, but it is dramatically better than what we operate under now.

Hope things are going well,

Dave

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**From:** Omelanchuk, Reuben [mailto:Reuben.Omelanchuk@seattle.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 01, 2011 7:17 AM  
**To:** 'DJELLIS@spokanecounty.org'  
**Subject:** Datron Scout

David!

Thanks again for coming over last month for the demonstration. I hope you came away with good information.

I was talking with Datron and they mentioned that you guys are going to be getting your hands on a Scout for some period of time, or something like that. I saw the unit in person but did not see it fly. Do you think we (SPD) could coordinate a day to visit your location and see the darn thing fly?

Thank you,  
R. Omelanchuk #6802  
(206) 733-9364  
Seattle Police Department  
Homeland Security